



# THE FRANCISCAN STAFF

The Newsletter of the people of  
Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church  
600 South La Cañada Drive  
Green Valley AZ 85614

Vol. 57, No. 5

May/June 2020

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*Our mission is to live as Christ's heart and hands in the world.*

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## *From our Interim Rector . . .*

### EASTER GOES VIRAL

This spring is one in a lifetime. We've never had an Easter like this one. How do we proclaim resurrection to life while death stalks the halls of our nursing homes and hospitals? How do we celebrate life while the social isolation which may save us also dampens our spirits, while it is dragging small business owners and laid-off workers into poverty?

Perhaps because this spring, worldwide, is framed by the threat of death, therefore by contrast any sign of life appears all the more vivid to us. Parks and public spaces—including the patio at St. Francis—are being taken back by birds and animals. East Coast cities, vacated by vehicular traffic, report air quality much improved. Signs of life!

Feeling the fragility of life, and the sadness of suffering for the sick and dying, medical workers have felt their hearts moved to kindness, and to faithful service—even at grave personal risk. Grocery employees remain on the job, risking illness so that you and I may eat. Vivid evidence of life lived and given sacrificially!

Many of you St. Francis parish members were moved to generosity this spring, contributing \$5,000 to the work of Episcopal Relief and Development, including aid for those made ill or unemployed by Covid-19. Generosity is a supernatural sign of life.

Now a former St. Francis couple is leading the way in giving generously to local institutions which help those among us who are most impacted by the virus. Bill and Carol Copeland of Green Valley have announced in *The Green Valley News* (April 15, page 6) that they will donate their stimulus checks to Santa Cruz Hospital. They are encouraging the rest of us, who receive a check, but don't need it to live on, to join them in donating to community institutions whose work we value, including the GV Council, GV Food Bank, Community Performance and Art Center, GV Recreation, Valley Assistance Services, White Elephant, Friends in Deed, and others. The Copeland's generosity inspires ours! When we who receive generous assistance pay that generosity forward to others, we act in faith even when our generosity isn't seen by others to be 'Christian.' We not only follow the teaching of Jesus—we participate in it!

At Easter, Jesus' resurrection was more than an historic, one-off victory over death. It was the first step in the salvation of the world by those who would, and will, follow Christ into lives of service, generosity and sacrifice. Grocery clerks and bank clerks; nurses, online teachers and respiratory therapists; those who tip, those who Stay at Home writing checks and donating online. . . are leading us into the Kingdom of Heaven this gruesome spring. Because, as Christ teaches us in the gospels, it is through our service, generosity and sacrifice that His salvation of the world will be completed.

In Christ's love,

## Welcome to St. Francis, Nelson Mendoza!

Last October, our Search Committee called Fr. Warren Leibovitch to become St. Francis' next settled rector. He is still waiting for his visa application to be approved—but his heart is already with us, and he shares with us by Zoom calls in pastoral contacts and governance. My best guess is that Our Next Rector may get here this summer.

But life goes on! In March, Bishop Reddall invited St. Francis to hire a talented and attractive clergyman to become our parish Curate for two years. The Rev. Nelson Mendoza is already ordained a Deacon, and I expect the bishop will ordain him a Priest this spring. He has strong skills and experience as a community organizer and a church grower. We find him outgoing, articulate, and passionate about issues the Episcopal Church faces today. Nelson will graduate from the Episcopal Seminary in Austin, TX, on May 20; and with prayerful consideration and thoughtful discussion your Vestry, with a strong 'Yes!' has hired Nelson to be Curate at St. Francis for two years. We will invite him to share some of his interesting background and formation with you in an upcoming issue of our newsletters. You're going to love this young man, as the Vestry, Fr. Warren and I have already come to love him! *Fr. Colville*

## A Parishioner's Prayer

*Paula Altamirano is a longtime member and leader at St. Francis. She also teaches a popular community art class here. From her care for our community, Paula has composed this prayer for all of us suffering through the pandemic, and we are delighted to share it here.*

Oh GOD, the creator and preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all conditions of every man, woman and child. That thou wouldst give us your saving Grace for Health and Safety to all nations through this Corona Virus Pandemic spreading through the world. We pray for all the healthcare professionals working on the front line graciously saving souls while exposing themselves to the Virus...please continue to protect them Lord. We pray that with the God-given talents you've given scientists and others who are diligently working to eradicate this Virus, please give them the knowledge and expertise to quickly create a solution.

Please help those working tirelessly to sustain our economy and create working solutions to provide us with a safe work environment; please help them, Oh Lord. Through Christ all things are possible...please in your infinite wisdom Lord, eradicate this virus for the health and well-being of all people and planet Earth. Praying that your will may be done!

In His Name, *Paula Altamirano*

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### Saint Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church

600 South La Cañada Drive  
Green Valley AZ 85614

(520) 625-1370 – [www.stfrancisgvaz.org](http://www.stfrancisgvaz.org)

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**THE RT. REV. JENNIFER REDDALL,**

Bishop

**THE REV. CANON COLVILLE SMYTHE**

Interim Rector

**The Rev. Becky Williamson**

Deacon

### THE VESTRY

Wayne North, Senior Warden;

Julie Reppenhagen, Junior Warden;

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Kristi Menix, Orji Isiogu, Sandy Russell,

Cheryl Tardy-Albin, Helen Mullaly, Jenica Hisko,

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**Clyde Tardy**

Assistant Sextons

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*St. Francis in the Valley, Green Valley,*

*is to live as Christ's heart and hands*

*in the world.*

## Senior Warden's Notes

Two issues back, I introduced you to retired Navy Admiral James Stavridis, who, in his most recent book titled *SAILING TRUE NORTH: TEN ADMIRALS AND THE VOYAGE OF CHARACTER*, brings to our attention the various reasons why some naval commanders have enjoyed unsurpassed success in their naval careers, while others barely managed to “keep their heads above water.” What Admiral Stavridis discovered in his research was the fact that those who achieved reputations of outstanding leadership, were blessed with having in their possession a variety of significantly important personal traits or definitions of character that set them apart from their peers.

In this month's issue, we meet Chinese Admiral Zheng He. As Admiral Stavridis begins to understand the biography, leadership style, and character of the career pathway of this oriental genius, we too, will begin to discover the way Zheng He is viewed and how his character continues to influence the second-largest navy in the world, and the how and why he succeeded where others failed. What is even more remarkable is the time period Zheng He occupied. His birth year was 1371 in Yunnan, China, and he died at sea in the Indian Ocean in 1433. What propelled the fleets of his time was wind-filled canvas, and brute strength pushing crudely carved timbers through the waters.

As Admiral Stavridis begins to explore with us the unique role leadership plays in a maritime culture, it is the degree of importance that leadership preparation plays in achieving a successful voyage outcome. “This is a large part of the reason that naval cultures everywhere have given ship captains such enormous authority and commensurate responsibility: everyone helps in preparing for a voyage, but the captain is ultimately responsible for adequately provisioning and training the ship.”

“Organization is more than a skill - it is a quality of character. It implies a disciplined, linear, sensible approach to analysis and problem solving. And best of all, organization is a character trait that can be developed and practiced...in so many ways, our character is the sum of the choices we make about the immediate moment and the course we chart into the future.”

Resilience was also a crucial element in Zheng He's character. It is difficult to imagine the brutality of his capture at a very young age, and yet he not only continued onward but made himself indispensable to the very people who brutalized him. In the end, his practice of

immense resilience and tact ushered his way into the emperor's confidence and the subsequent command of seven massive voyages. “His character was clearly shaped by the quality of resilience, which is perhaps the most important of human attributes for the simple reason that all of us will suffer failure repeatedly on the road to life.” Resilience itself is most often developed by learning to operate under pressure, and there were no shortages of challenges during Zheng He's tenure of command at sea.

By the time he was tasked with building and commanding a treasure fleet of more than 300 hundred ships, an unmatched achievement in itself, his having perspective and keeping a sense of the larger context helped him to recognize that no matter how difficult the current circumstances, there were always far worse situations one could find oneself.

Another personal quality of his leadership style was Zheng He's respect for others in a conscious daily routine. A practicing Muslim throughout his life, Zheng He was among a religious minority in service to the Ming court. The diversity of religions he encountered with his peers was far outpaced by that among the crews of his treasure fleet, and he quickly learned to cultivate a tolerance with and among his subordinates, and in doing so learned what modern leaders learn to do to in order to adapt. Zheng He was recognized as an early practitioner of demonstrating the many advantages of diversity in team performance and instilling the practice of building tolerance in themselves and within the organizations they lead.

A precise review of the leadership characteristics as witnessed in Zheng He's career would be his “quiet skills of management and organization; his tolerance for the full range of human beliefs and diversity; his gift for independence tempered by loyalty to his ruler; and especially his hard-earned resilience in dealing with the pain of life.”

In our next issue we will visit with Sir Francis Drake, A Pirate and a Patriot, as we continue to explore the role character plays in developing leadership, and the importance of character for personal self-worth and success.

*Wayne North*, Senior Warden

Portions of my text contain material taken directly from Admiral James Stavridis' book titled *SAILING TRUE NORTH: TEN ADMIRALS AND THE VOYAGE OF CHARACTER*, Copyright © 2019 by James Stavridis, and reprinted with permission from the book's publishers, Penguin Random House LLC.

## 2020 Tour of Homes

I am delighted to give an update for the 2020 Tour of Homes. To date we have raised approximately \$12,740. Later this month we will gather a team to make decisions on where to distribute the funds, keeping in mind the needs created by the COVID-19 virus. Thanks again to all who worked and all who attended. It was a true St. Francis family effort.

*Julie Reppenhagen*, Chairman, 2020 Tour of Homes

## Junior Warden's Notes

The COVID-19 Virus has created a unique opportunity for our church, as we are closed to the outside for a yet to be determined amount of time. Seizing this opportunity, the Vestry has approved the much-needed renovation of the two courtyard restrooms. The floors will be resurfaced with an epoxy and chip surface and the plumbing will be replaced with all new fixtures. The rotted wood behind the sinks and toilets will be replaced and the tile walls will be replaced with wainscot bead board and trim, and the metal partitions will be replaced with wood ones. Our Courtyard restrooms are well used by our church and outside groups and we are happy for this opportunity to upgrade them.

A rodent infestation above the ceiling tiles in the Boutique is also being addressed. A restoration company is cleaning up the rodent waste and repairing the ceiling tiles. The electric company is repairing the damaged power lines, which will enable them to complete the lighting project along the North Fence parking. Oasis Heating and Cooling will repair the holes (leaks, etc.) which allowed the rodents to move in. When completed, we will have a new ceiling in the Boutique, a tight roof, and lighting in the parking lot.

Many thanks to the Boutique Team, John Colip and Clyde Tardy for all the extra work that these two projects created.

A second project approved by the Vestry is the resurfacing of the Vulliamy Room floor with an epoxy and chips surface. Several years back, the Building and Grounds Committee acknowledged the need to replace the carpet in the Vulliamy Room but felt that, financially, it was not the right time. We are now in a better position to do this and it will greatly improve the Sexton's ability to easily keep the floor clean, with all the coffee spills that occur in that space.

*Julie Reppenhagen*, Junior Warden

## The Easter (Paschal) Sermon of St. John Chrysostom, c. 347-407

Feast Day observed in the Kalendar of the Episcopal Church on January 27

*John, called "Chrysostom," which means "the golden-mouthed," was one of the greatest preachers in the history of the Church. People flocked to hear him. His eloquence was accompanied by an acute sensitivity to the needs of people. He saw preaching as an integral part of pastoral care, and as a medium of teaching. He warned that if a priest had no talent for preaching the Word, the souls of those in his charge "will fare no better than ships tossed in the storm." (1994 Lesser Feasts And Fasts, © 1995 Church Pension Fund.)*

If anyone is devout and a lover of God, let them enjoy this beautiful and radiant festival. If anyone is a grateful servant, let them, rejoicing, enter into the joy of his Lord. If anyone has come at the third hour, with thanksgiving let them feast. If anyone has arrived at the sixth hour, let them have no misgivings. If anyone has delayed until the ninth hour, let them draw near without hesitation. If anyone has arrived even at the eleventh hour, let them not fear on account of tardiness. For the Master is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He has mercy upon the last and cares for the first. He both honors the work and praises the intention.

Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, receive your reward. O rich and poor, one with another, dance for joy! O you ascetics and you negligent, celebrate the day! You that have fasted and you that have disregarded the fast, rejoice today! The table is rich-laden: feast royally, all of you! The calf is fatted: let no one go forth hungry! Let all partake of the feast of faith. Let all receive the riches of goodness. Let no one lament their poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one mourn their transgressions, for pardon has dawned from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Saviour's death has set us free.

O death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown! Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen! Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is risen, and life reigns! Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in a tomb!

For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the first-fruits of them that have slept. To Him be glory and might unto the ages of ages. Amen.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kim Moss
- 3 Judy Craig
- 3 Bonnie Selcho
- 4 Carol Berg
- 4 Reg Kahrimanis
- 5 Glenda Brown
- 5 Joseph Chidester
- 5 Bruce Folkers
- 7 George Grove
- 9 Pamela Hyde
- 12 Kim DeMarco
- 13 Robert Ashley
- 13 Joyce Kaminski
- 13 Harry Lyons
- 14 Kelly Smith
- 14 Ed Wanek
- 15 Patricia Gustin
- 16 Carolyn Gates
- 16 Dorothy North
- 16 Judy Richards
- 17 Neil Helgath
- 17 Henry Ramirez
- 18 Joan K. Henley
- 19 Jennifer Skelton
- 20 Robert Blanton
- 20 Cailee Hamm
- 21 Louise Hursh
- 21 Don Misner
- 22 Patricia Mabie
- 22 Robert Thornby
- 23 Shoo Adams
- 23 Mary Ellen Benarth
- 23 Gail Haight
- 24 Grace Marben
- 24 Dick Sampson
- 25 Lois Plante
- 26 Julianne Reppenhagen
- 26 Allana Swain
- 27 Carol Lyons
- 28 Terri Chavez
- 28 William Wells
- 28 Dorothy Zimmerman
- 29 Cayo De Mendoza
- 29 Sean Hamm
- 30 Nancy Secaur

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Kessing, Russell & Kim
- 5 Klein, Beth-el & Batwin, Phillip

- 8 Paulson, Ann & Ramon Silva
- 13 Hursh, Neal & Louise
- 14 Henley, Joan
- 17 Barnes, James & Pamela
- 19 Breitenbucher, Julie & Ken
- 23 Sampson, Dick & Margaret
- 24 Eckstein, Mark & Sandy
- 24 Schnelle, William & Linda
- 28 Gardner, Charles & Marjorie

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Sherri Cadeaux
- 1 Linda Pantoja
- 1 Lila Stoffel
- 2 Edna Manahan
- 3 Jack Gardner
- 3 Carolyn Moorehead
- 4 Christopher Green
- 4 William Symons
- 5 George Schappach
- 7 Joyce Bair
- 7 Michial-Mike Teufel
- 8 (Helen) Marie Miller
- 9 Barbara Adams
- 9 Joseph Turberg
- 10 Susan Heacock
- 10 Kathryn Helgeson
- 12 Don Hayden
- 13 Ted Bair
- 13 Aleksei Hamm
- 13 Nancy Symons
- 15 Craig Reid
- 16 Barbara Miller
- 19 Victor Stevens-Rosenberg
- 19 Ben Travis
- 20 Gary Jacobs
- 20 Bernie Ravenelle
- 20 Erik Ringkjob
- 20 Louisa Terry
- 22 Ronda Stanford
- 23 Jan Gaylord
- 24 Sarah Goodman
- 24 Roger Hinterthuer
- 25 Deborah Harby
- 25 Vern Hughes
- 26 Mike Gaydos
- 26 Mona Kiefer
- 27 Anne Charter
- 27 Wendy Hill
- 27 Roger Miller

- 27 Donna Sheridan
- 27 Robert Tenney
- 28 John Challman
- 28 Russell Kessing
- 28 Bob Ogus
- 28 Christine Palmer
- 28 Al Quick
- 29 Susan Davis
- 29 Shirley Ryan
- 29 Carol Vleck

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Grove, George & Terry, Louisa
- 2 Holt, William & Diane
- 4 Kerns, Nancy & Mike
- 4 Turberg, Joe & Rae
- 5 Luffman, James & Sophie
- 6 Barratt, Ken & Sib
- 8 Bush, Jim & Judy
- 8 Stoffel, Alex & Lila
- 15 Remillard, Vincent & Joyce
- 16 Hayden, Don & Tedesa
- 18 Isiogu, Orji & Jenny
- 18 Keller, Fred & Kathleen
- 22 Berg, Linda
- 23 Saavedra, Eloy & Justine
- 24 Moss, Greg & Kim
- 26 Packer, John & Karen
- 26 Tenney, Robert & Susan
- 30 Nielsen, Lucy & Kenneth

## THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



### *Prayer Chain*

For Prayer Chain requests contact Jim Ratley at 253-365-5093 or, via email, at [jjnrats@gmail.com](mailto:jjnrats@gmail.com).

### *Clergy Availability*

Our St. Francis clergy are still available for pastoral care and calls. Contact Fr. Colville directly at [colville@stfrancisgvaz.org](mailto:colville@stfrancisgvaz.org) or 626-824-0270.

## Become an Honorary Grandparent

Dear Parishioners,

We would normally be bringing this announcement to you verbally during Sunday services, so for the time being please read the following and respond at your earliest convenience.

We would like once again to personally invite each member of St. Francis to participate in our partnership ministry with the Imago Dei Middle School in Tucson. The school, one of five schools operating under the umbrella of the Arizona Episcopal Schools Foundation, operates with grades five through eight, 5 ½ days a week, 11 months of the year. The curriculum is specifically designed to help bring students, many of whom may be a year or two behind their peers when they begin as fifth-grade scholars, up to that expected for their appropriate age level by the time they graduate from eighth grade.

Most often, English is not even a second language in their homes, and we often learn that a single parent is alone managing things on the home front. Nearly all families involved are at poverty level or below.

All things considered these young scholars certainly deserve special recognition for the four years of impressive academic achievement they worked so hard for.

The families are proud of their student's accomplishments and we should be as well. Our goal this year is to raise—through contributions from you, our parishioners—\$2,000 to give us the oppor-

tunity to provide each of the twenty eighth grade graduating scholars a \$100 Visa Gift Card in recognition of their academic achievements. Please make your checks payable to St. FRANCIS, with the notation IMAGO DEI MIDDLE SCHOOL on the memo line and drop off or mail to the Parish Office.

Graduation was set for Thursday afternoon, 21 May, in Tucson; however, COVID-19 has brought about an abrupt change in plans, and hopefully we will have more information soon as to the specific date and location of the commencement exercises. In recent years, we've had as many as three dozen parishioners attending graduation, and this year we would love to see that number grow to four or even five dozen attending as Honorary Grandparents.

We thank you for reading and responding to our invitation to share in this most worthwhile and gratifying ministry. Should you have questions please give us a call.

Thank you.

*Wayne North* (715) 205-8374

### How to Access Service Videos

Go to the Parish website ([www.stfrancisgvaz.org](http://www.stfrancisgvaz.org)), scroll down to the bottom of the page where you will see the current video; click on the arrow ▶ to start the video, and enjoy!

*Do we have...*

**your@e-mail.address?**

## Listening to Music

It's sometimes difficult, even for professional musicians, to sit quietly and listen to music. There are times when I, if I'm listening with a score in hand, find myself looking ahead to see how much more I must sit through before I get either to the good stuff or to the end. It's the musical equivalent of turning ahead in a book you're reading either because you're bored or because you are, at least to yourself, a spoiler.

Since we have come to something of a standstill at the present moment, giving a good book or a great piece of music a chance to engage our attention might be a way to enrich our solitude with something of significance and beauty. I don't mean listening just to pass the time—although there's nothing wrong with that—but listening in a way that makes time more or less irrelevant. That means listening actively, not just passively with music in the background. And I don't mean listening to music with which you're already familiar—although there's certainly nothing wrong with that either—but music that pushes, at least for you, the envelope.

Now, as you might expect, I'm going to suggest you listen to some serious music or, as it is sometimes called, 'classical' music. The terms 'serious' and 'classical' are here both somewhat misleading. By *serious* I don't mean gloomy or difficult and the term *classical* actually refers to a certain period in the history of music, specifically the period of Haydn and Mozart.

I'm not going to suggest you listen to enormous, extended works like Mahler's *Sixth Symphony* or

Bach's *B Minor Mass*, either of which might be said to constitute the musical equivalent of *War and Peace*, but, rather, to some smaller pieces which, although not of great length, are nevertheless powerful in their ability to move listeners out of the ordinary and into the extraordinary.

Take, for example, Frederick Delius' *The walk to the Paradise Garden*. Although Delius—a twentieth century English composer—wasn't a particularly nice guy, he did manage to write some astonishingly beautiful music; some of his smaller works are especially lovely. (Okay, just take my word for it.) The *Paradise Garden* to which the title of the piece refers (the piece is an orchestral interlude from Delius' opera *A Village Romeo and Juliet*) is actually not a garden but a bar (but a bar presumably *in* a garden). But never mind that. Search on You Tube for a performance of this gorgeous piece conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham; it'll be an old recording but a goodie. See if you aren't transported by this very beautiful music.

Since we mentioned Bach, let me give a shout-out to the second movement of his *Concerto in D Minor for Two Violins and Orchestra*. I know the name Bach sends chills down the spine (or is it up the spine?) but try to overcome that and give this piece a listen; it's one of the greatest pieces ever written. Remember: it's the second movement you're after, the *Largo*.

If Bach is too scary for you, give Rachmaninoff a shot, especially the third movement (*Adagio*) of his Symphony No. II. This is a fairly long piece but rich harmonically and melodically from beginning to end. It may also sound famil-

## 2020 Parish Statistics

### Transfers In

The Rev. Becky Williamson

Sue Moody

### New Members by

#### Confirmation or

#### Reception

Donald & Faith Misner

Gary & Anita Jacobs

Ric Pike

### Transfers Out

Norm & Pat Fisher

### Deaths

George Haight

Richard Sampson

iar: a 70s pop song by Eric Carmen (*Never gonna fall in love again*) makes use of the main theme of this highly romantic piece.

Or try Richard Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll*, written in 1869 as a present for his second wife Cosima, and in recognition of the birth of their son Siegfried. *Siegfried Idyll* is a really lovely, somewhat pastoral, not very lengthy, piece for small orchestra. Well worth a visit. Wagner wasn't a very nice guy either, but who cares?

You Tube, a great resource for many things but especially for music, does require a computer, tablet or, at least, a 'smart' phone. (Things are disquieting somewhat when your phone is smarter than you are.) A computer or tablet plus headphones is almost the best of all possible worlds. The *very* best of all possible worlds would of course be the St. Francis Parish Choir with Michael at the organ. But we'll have to wait a bit for that. Meanwhile, there's You Tube. *Gerald*

## Reserving Meeting Time and Space at Saint Francis

Individuals wishing to reserve meeting space at St. Francis and/or discuss room set-ups should make those arrangements through Administrative Assistant Bethel Klein. It is **essential** your meeting be logged into the Master Calendar. If you need it, be sure to ask for 'set-up' and 'clean-up' time as part of your booking.

One week prior to your event please inventory the pantry next to the kitchen and let Bethel know if there are enough supplies to meet your needs. A parishioner usually shops for us twice a month. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

## Getting Your Event into Parish Publications

Sunday Bulletin notices should be given to the Parish Administrator by NOON the Tuesday prior to the Sunday you wish the notice to appear. Notices should be in written form and sent via email whenever possible.

*Franciscan Staff* material should be given to the Parish Administrator NO LATER THAN the 10th of the month preceding publication.

## Address Changes

Please let us know if your e-mail address, street address, zip code or telephone number changes. Get in touch with Deborah Harby in the Parish Financial Office to update your information for our records.

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